

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 7, without prejudice, amend claim 1, and add new claims 13-20 as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A piezoelectric acoustic element using a piezoelectric element as a vibration source, comprising:

a hollow casing having at least one opening and a side wall;

a diaphragm provided at the opening of said casing;

said side wall extending in a direction normal to a plane of the opening and normal to a surface of the diaphragm; and

a piezoelectric element ~~that is~~ disposed in said casing, and attached at one end of said piezoelectric element in a longitudinal direction to said side wall of said casing by a support member for pivotal movement with respect to said support member about an axis through said support member, and that bends about said axis when a voltage is applied thereto;

wherein said piezoelectric element has a laminated structure in which conductive layers and piezoelectric material layers are alternately laminated, and

wherein said piezoelectric element and said diaphragm are joined through a vibration transmitting member.

Claim 2(Previously presented): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 1, wherein both ends of said piezoelectric element in a longitudinal direction are fixed to an inner surface of said side wall of said casing through a respective support member.

Claim 3 (original): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 2, wherein said support member is elastic.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, further comprising two or more diaphragms and/or vibration transmitting members that are different as regards at least one of thickness, materials, and size.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, further comprising two diaphragms that are arranged opposite to each other so that said piezoelectric element is in between them, wherein said two diaphragms are joined to said piezoelectric element through respective vibration transmitting members.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, further comprising an elastic plate joined to said piezoelectric element, wherein said elastic plate is joined to said diaphragm through said vibration transmitting member.

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (original): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 1, wherein said vibration transmitting member is a spring.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 1, wherein said diaphragm is formed of a film selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene terephthalate film, a polyethersulfone film, a polyester film, and a polypropylene film.

Claim 10 (original): An acoustic device provided with the piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 1.

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
3450 E. SUNRISE DRIVE,
SUITE 140
TUCSON, AZ 85718
TEL. 520.862.7623
FAX. 520.862.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567

Claim 11 (original): A portable terminal device provided with the piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 1.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 1, wherein said vibration transmitting member is elastic.

Claim 13 (new): A piezoelectric acoustic element using a piezoelectric element as a vibration source, comprising:

a hollow casing having at least one opening and a side wall;

a diaphragm provided at the opening of said casing;

said side wall extending in a direction normal to a plane of the opening and normal to a surface of the diaphragm; and

a piezoelectric element disposed in said casing, and attached at only one end of said piezoelectric element in a longitudinal direction to said side wall of said casing by a support member for pivotal movement with respect to said support member about an axis through said support member, and that bends about said axis when a voltage is applied thereto, the other end of said piezoelectric element is floating relative to said side wall of said casing;

wherein said piezoelectric element and said diaphragm are joined through a vibration transmitting member.

Claim 14 (new): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 13, wherein said support member is elastic.

Claim 15 (new): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 13, wherein said piezoelectric element has a laminated structure in which conductive layers and piezoelectric material layers are alternately laminated.

Claim 16 (new): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 13, wherein said vibration transmitting member is a spring.

Claim 17 (new): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to Claim 13, wherein said diaphragm is formed of a film selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene terephthalate film, a polyethersulfone film, a polyester film, and a polypropylene film.

Claim 18 (new): An acoustic device provided with the piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 13.

Claim 19 (new): A portable terminal device provided with the piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 13.

Claim 20 (new): The piezoelectric acoustic element according to claim 13, wherein said vibration transmitting member is elastic.

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
3450 E. SUNRISE DRIVE,
SUITE 140
TUCSON, AZ 85718
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567